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ANSWERS THE PRAYERS OF THE SUFFERING LEPERS

Legislative Investigating Committee Takes the Testimony of the Unfortunates.

Report of the Committee Will Contain Many Important Recommendations for Relief. More Food, Better Treatment and a Measure of Local Government.

"Leprosy!—God Almighty, has ever more ingenious device of the Fland been invented for the punishment of those erring children?"

Thus spoke a newspaperman at the conclusion of the work of the investigating committee of the Legislature in the Settlement at Molokai.

The people of this city know that there is a leper settlement on Molokai.

They know that there are approximately 1000 patients detained within its limits.

They have heard of persons being taken from home and family and placed within its confines never to return. But do they know what it all means? The action of the authorities in branding a human being with the official stigma of the most mysterious and terrible ailment of mankind?

God grant that they may never have the curiosity to find out, personally. Whatever may be written on the subject, lacks the awfulness of the reality. How can pen describe the fearful signs of the scourge or picture the effects of the disease upon the minds and bodies of the unfortunates?

The halting and spasmodic gait—the dreadful expression of the disease upon the faces of the sufferers—the scarred and seared hand—the pitiful weakness of the body, but most of all the silent, wintry, desperate appeal which cries out from the preternaturally bright eyes of the afflicted.

Dante might have done it. Poe, perhaps, could have caused a shudder to pass over a reader of his description of what I saw, but no human being could actually reproduce the picture in his mind, resulting from a visit to Molokai.

It is perhaps better so for the capability of humanity for withstanding actual contact with such a scene, is surely limited.

Let mankind, rather, rejoice that Dante's body and brain have returned to earth and that the prayer of the painter whose ambition it was "to paint a dying groan" was not answered.

In Biblical days, Christ performed many miracles. He fed a multitude with a few loaves and fishes—He turned water into wine—He even raised the dead, in direct opposition to the best law of nature. But, although I did not realize it until I visited Molokai, I now know that the greatest miracle he gave of his power to his disciples, was in freeing some of the lepers of Palestine from their affliction.

A normal human being is always better satisfied with a literary or dramatic effort, if the climax is reached to the happiness of the heroine and the satisfaction and honor of the hero. I remember the sensation of sinking and despair I felt when reading General Wallace's "Ben Hur," at the point in that masterpiece where the devoted mother and daughter emerge from the cell of leprosy, covered with the physical evidences of the disease.

I could not imagine how the story was to "end well," until it was suggested by my mother that "Christ was there."

Christ could heal the leper, but Ambrose Hutchinson, fearfully afflicted with the disease himself, told the Legislature's committee that in his 22 years residence on Molokai, not one of the thousands and thousands of cases there treated had been cured.

Like death, leprosy is incurable.

A single spark of humanity would be sufficient in any man's mind to cause him to desire the discovery of a cure for the disease, and as a cure seems out of the question, that same spark leads men to compassion for the afflicted ones whose presence is rendered dangerous to society by reason of their affliction.

It is had enough to be a leper. It is had enough to be banished from home and kindred, from society and business and be transported through that portal over which was written, "Leave Hope Behind, All Ye Who Enter Here." Bad enough to be made dependent upon the administrators of the law for the means to prolong miserable life. But what do the people think of the practice of "economy" made in their names by their officers in feeding and caring for their wards?

How do they like the idea of taking a man from his family and usefulness, because he is dangerous to the public health and sentencing him to imprisonment for the term of his natural life and then feeding him so meagerly that the sentence is measurably shortened?

How do they like the idea of passing judgment on suspected cases of leprosy as severe as the penalty assessed by law for the taking of a human life, and based sometimes on insufficient evidence?

How do you like it, good people of the United States Territory of Hawaii? You say you have not done these things?

The evidence is against you.

You are all and each of you on trial. The judge is very wise and his name is Conscience. Your accusers are the facts, and the decision of the court may mean the execution of your own respect.

Here is the gist of the evidence:

On the 20th day of February it was decided at a mass meeting of lepers, held in Beretania Hall, Kalaupapa.

The tinne beef was very poor and food

fresh beef was lean and bony. He made one remarkable statement in regard to the raising of taro on the lands of the settlement for the use of the colony. He stated that under the laws of 1893 lepers were allowed to cultivate taro on the lands without paying any portion of the product to the Board of Health. When he was asked to explain, he said that under the present custom the unfortunate supplies himself to give up a quarter of his crop to the agents of the Board of Health. The poi which is made from the taro has for years been the principal article of diet of the lepers and had been proved to be the best food that can be provided for them. Some years ago the supply was reduced about five pounds per week and according to the witness the reduction was a great hardship to the people of the settlement. He prayed that the committee would replace the present amount with that formerly furnished.

It was promised by the members of the examining committee that the supply would be increased and that several of the other reforms would be made. During the taking of the testimony of Makakoa there was an exhibition of a peculiarly gruesome character. Leprosy is regarded by healthy persons who are not acquainted with it, as a most horrible affliction. Imprisonment for life with a thousand lepers would not be looked upon with favor by anyone not moved by the high motive of true religion.

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(Continued on Fourth Page.)

RATHER DULL DAY IN LEGISLATURE

Representatives Have Not Recovered From Trip.

PLENTY OF ROUTINE WORK

FIRST BILL IS PASSED THIRD

READING BY THE HOUSE.

On Account of Inauguration at Washington the Legislature Adjourned Early in the Afternoon—Many New Bills Introduced.

The legislators of the lower house were too tired to transact much actual business yesterday at the Capitol. They were recovering from the effects of their labors in investigating the Molokai settlements and institutions during the two preceding days and were hardly in condition to give their best attention to the ordinary business of the session. There was quite a large amount of work accomplished in spite of the apparent weariness and when the House adjourned for the day it was with the record for the largest number of bills introduced during the session as well as the passage of the first of the legislative measures brought before the House.

The bill making an appropriation for the expenses of the House was adopted by a third reading and adopted by the lower house by a vote of 26 to 3. The three members who voted against the bill were Kumale, Ewaliko and Kaniho. Kaniho has developed a strong tendency to vote against nearly every measure advocated by the majority and when there appears to be a brighter and shining opportunity to have a unanimous ballot on any subject, he bobs up with his lone vote in opposition. His action, of course, has little bearing upon the sentiment of the House but it serves the purpose of affording the members of the House a chance to have a little relaxation.

The members always look in the direction of Kaniho's desk when a resolution has been introduced which is greatly favored by the majority and the House was not an exception in this respect. The resolution translated by Interpreter W. S. the hand of Kaniho is extended in opposition and the House laughs. Just why he does so is a mooted question and some of the sports members are prone to lay "a little even money" that the gentleman from Hawaii will oppose a certain measure and will lay down from 3, to 10 to 1, that he will be alone in his opposition, depending upon the strength of the favorable feeling to the bill in inverse ratio.

The last suggestion of Emmeluth on Friday, in regard to the printing of the journals of the House from day to day and the resulting duties of Clerk Pua of supplying the members with copies of the record, was taken up on motion to reconsider, and was promptly turned down on the grounds that the motion of the "Moses of the Senate" was in violation of the House in adopting it, was a reflection upon the ability of the Secretary of the House. Emmeluth did not fight very hard for the life of his motion and seemed to accept the action of the House in a very philosophical spirit.

The session opened with a report or communication from the Police Department in regard to an error made in the financial matters of the department in over-paying the Territorial Treasurer to the extent of \$440. It was referred to the Committee on Accounts.

On motion of Makekau, Emmeluth's motion with reference to the printing of the journals was taken up and defeated by a close vote. Mossman wanted to urge the matter but the Chair did not desire to have his burning thoughts on the subject and heartily lessened turn him down.

Beckley then read a long communication from the Road Board of Makawao, Maui, asking for a large appropriation for the repair of the roads which were destroyed by the late storm. According to the letter, the roads were very badly damaged by the storm and require immediate attention. On motion of Beckley the communication was tabled.

Under the order of the day today the petition offered by Mahoe requesting Congress to abolish the United States Quarantine regulations, will come up for further consideration. A lively time is promised.

Prendergast from the Committee on Printing reported several bills printed and ready for further action. A bill introduced by Robertson to amend the Criminal Jurisdiction of District Magistrates was passed to second reading and ordered printed, as was also a bill in relation to Practice and Procedure by the same Representative.

Robertson gave notice that he would bring in a bill limiting the sale of alcohol and amending the existing laws in relation thereto.

Kelliko gave notice of the introduction of a railroad bill granting certain rights to a company to construct a road from Kailua, North Kona, Hawaii, to Pahala, Kau.

Dickey gave notice of three bills relating to the jurisdiction of District Magistrates in civil matters.

Then followed the deferred language of the Emmeluth resolution about the printing. At the conclusion of the session, House-bill No. 1 was pushed through and the House took a recess for lunch.

In the afternoon House-bill No. 5

was moved up to the Committee on Judiciary. The bill deals with the personal relation of guardian and ward.

No. 8 was referred to the Committee on Public Education. No. 9, the vaccination bill by Kaniho, was referred to the Public Health Committee and No. 10 was passed to third reading and referred to the Committee on Judiciary. This bill was introduced by Robertson and provides for an additional Circuit Judge of the First Circuit.

Dickey closed the rather dull session by moving that, as it was the day of the inauguration of President McKinley, the House stand adjourned out of respect to the Executive. Carried.

THE SENATE.

Members of the Senate received a partial intimation yesterday morning of what they might expect in the line of business during the present session. The note of warning was sounded when Cecil Brown read a notice of about a score of bills. Mr. Achi also gave notice of a healthy bunch of bills. Outside of these features, the proceedings of the Senate yesterday were uneventful. There was an almost total absence of the wordy passages at arms that characterized the first few days of the session. The members of the upper house felicitated themselves that they had at least accomplished some preliminary matters and were ready for the real work of legislation.

The late return from Molokai evidently had its effect upon the Senate, the roll call indicating five absences. They were in an appearance before the minutes had been read and approved. The resolution from the House for a Tax Commission was received. Mr. Brown moved that it be made the first order of the day for Wednesday. Carried. The resolution reads:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, three members to be appointed by the Senate, to investigate the Tax Laws of this Territory and ascertain the manner in which the same have been actually applied, and the results thereunder.

Second.—That said committee report such defects as they may find in said laws, or in the method of administering the same, together with such recommendations for immediate legislation as will secure for this Territory a just and wise system of assessment and taxation.

Third.—That said committee be and is hereby authorized and empowered to retain counsel and to send for persons and papers, and to administer the usual oath to persons testifying before it; and they are hereby directed and required to report the result of their investigation within thirty days after their appointment.

Proposed by J. Emmeluth, Representative Fifth District.

An inquiry from Mr. Brown regarding the reports from the Governor elicited the information that they were in the hands of the printers and would soon be ready for distribution.

A resolution by Mr. White, with an amendment by Mr. Carter, which was passed after being thoroughly explained, stipulated that 500 copies of the Senate Journal, 250 in each language, be printed daily for distribution, each Senator being allowed twenty copies.

Mr. Kalaokalani, as chairman of the leper settlement at Molokai, asked for additional time in which to make his report.

Mr. White, as chairman of the special committee to see to the details of the transfer to the bungalow, stated that the quarters would be ready for occupancy in a short time, and he would see that they were rendered safe before taken possession of by the Senate. He was instructed to confer with the Superintendent of Public Works in regard to the matter.

Cecil Brown gave notice of the following bills:

An Act to apportion the term of office of seven Senators elected at the first general election.

An Act to regulate the employment of labor on the Public Works of the Territory of Hawaii.

An Act to amend section 2070 of the Civil Laws of the Territory of Hawaii.

An Act relating to exemption of certain property from attachment and execution, and repealing section 1483 of the Civil Laws.

An Act to define the Biennial Fiscal Period of the Territory of Hawaii.

An Act to repeal sections 1617, 1618 and 1619 of the Penal Laws, relating to Forcible Entry.

An Act to amend section 85 of the Penal Laws relating to the concealment of death of a newly born child.

An Act to amend section 3 of the Penal Laws relating to crimes and misdemeanors.

An Act to amend section 132 of the Penal Laws relating to the punishment for larceny.

An Act to amend section 68 of the Penal Laws relating to the punishment of the offense of deforming the feet of girls under the age of eighteen years.

An Act to amend section 61 of the Penal Laws relating to the punishment of assault or assault and battery on an officer.

An Act to amend section 200 of the Penal Laws relating to malicious injury.

An Act to amend section 182 of the Penal Laws relating to gross cheat.

An Act to amend section 174 of the Penal Laws relating to the offense of receiving stolen goods.

An Act to amend section 424 of the Penal Laws relating to the illegal manufacturing for sale of spirituous liquors and substances.

An Act to amend section 425 of the Penal Laws relating to the distillation of spirituous liquors.

An Act to amend section 586 of the Penal Laws relating to the protection of the places of sepulture.

An Act to amend section 584 of the Penal Laws relating to the jurisdiction of district magistrates.

An Act to repeal section 463 of the Penal Laws relating to importation of spirituous liquors.

An Act to amend section 255 of the Penal Laws relating to bribery.

An Act to amend section 246 of the Penal Laws relating to criminal conduct of an officer in regard to prison-

ers in his custody or committed thereto.

An Act to amend section 238 of the Penal Laws relating to trusts and monopolies.

An Act to amend section 215 of the Penal Laws relating to the illegal marking of live stock.

Mr. Achi gave notice of his intention to introduce the following bills:

An Act to repeal section 586 of the Civil Code, relating to the Poll Tax.

An Act relating to the estate of adopted children.

An Act to repeal Laws of 1896, Act 51 Section 17; Civil Laws, section 520.

An Act to provide a commission to take evidence concerning injuries to property caused by the action of the Board of health in connection with the suppression of bubonic plague in Honolulu and elsewhere in this Territory, and by the construction in Honolulu on January 20, 1900, and to report thereon.

Mr. Achi followed his announcement by reading a joint resolution requesting Congress to order an election in Hawaii for a Constitutional Convention with a view to securing Statehood.

Sensors White and Kaine maintained that Mr. Achi's resolution was not in order. After some discussion pro and con, the resolution was dropped.

Upon motion of Cecil Brown the resolutions submitted by the Governor will be made the order of business today.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was very brief. In honor of the inauguration of President William McKinley at Washington, the Senate adjourned shortly after being called to order. Before adjournment, however, President Russell announced the standing committees. They are:

Committee on Way and Means—Sensors D. Kanaoka, G. R. Carter and S. E. Kaine.

Committee on Judiciary—Sensors Wm. White, C. Brown and S. E. Kaine.

Committee on Public Expenditures—Sensors D. Kanaoka, H. P. Baldwin and D. Kanaoka.

Committee on Public Lands, Public Works and Internal Improvements—Sensors J. T. Brown, John D. Paris and L. Nakapahu.

Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Manufactures—Sensors J. B. Kahi, H. P. Baldwin and L. Nakapahu.

Committee on Public Health and Education—Sensors D. Kanaoka, H. P. Baldwin and D. Kanaoka.

Committee on Enrollment, Revision and Printing—Sensors D. Kanaoka, Wm. White, C. Crabbe and S. E. Kaine.

Committee on Accounts—Sensors Kanaoka, John D. Paris and John T. Brown.

Committee on Rules and Joint Rules—Sensors C. Brown, Wm. White and S. E. Kaine.

Committee on Miscellaneous Petitions—Sensors W. C. Achi, L. Nakapahu and J. B. Kahi.

Committee on Claims—Sensors Wm. White, C. Crabbe and S. E. Kaine.

Committee on Military—Sensors Geo. R. Carter, I. K. Kahilima and D. Kanaoka.

Committee on Intoxicants—Sensors S. E. Kaine, C. L. Crabbe and Wm. White.

Committee on Elections—Sensors Wm. White, C. L. Crabbe and John T. Brown.

Committee on Municipal and County Laws—Sensors D. Kanaoka, C. L. Crabbe and I. K. Kahilima.

Committee on Food Adulterations—Sensors Geo. R. Carter, J. B. Kahi and L. Nakapahu.

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ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE READY FOR BUSINESS

Policies Outlined and Officers Elected Last Night.

DR. CHAPMAN URGES PROMPT ACTION

LIQUOR INTERESTS WILL DEVOTE VAST SUMS TO DEFEAT DISPENSARY BILL.

Pledges Are Circulated and Assurance Received—Mass Meeting Sunday Evening—Much Enthusiasm Manifested Over Outcome.

Officers of the Anti-Saloon League of Honolulu:

- President, Theo. Richards.
- First Vice President, Rev. G. L. Pearson.
- Second Vice President, Franklin Austin.
- Third Vice President, Mrs. J. M. Whitney.
- Secretary, J. W. Moore.
- Treasurer, J. B. Atherton.
- Chairman of Committees—Agitation, Rev. W. K. Athill; Legislation, Rev. W. D. Westervelt; Enforcement, Major Wood, S. A.; Finance, Rev. J. P. Erdman; Enrollment, Wm. Templeton.

An organized agitation against the legalized saloons of Honolulu has taken tangible form. The Anti-Saloon League for this city is now a reality. The final steps toward completing the organization were taken yesterday evening at a well-attended meeting held in the auditorium of the Young Men's Christian Association building.

Dr. E. S. Chapman of California presided. He stated the progress made in former meetings. He outlined the best policies to be pursued in conducting the work in Honolulu. Dr. Chapman stated his position in the matter in a clear and concise manner. He declared that the saloon interests of this city were preparing themselves to fight the movement with all their power. The speaker was also of the opinion that the agitation regarding the introduction of the dispensary system in the Hawaiian Islands was greatly interesting the whisky interests on the mainland. They have large numbers of representatives on the ground at the present time, said the speaker, and he openly charged that there would be vast sums of money dumped into this community to sway opinion favorable to their interests.

In calling the large number of temperance people together Dr. Chapman stated that the Anti-Saloon League was not a rival to the existing temperance organizations now in existence in this city. On the other hand it was an institution which worked in harmony with all. He traced the history of the movement from its inception at Oberlin, Ohio, many years ago, down to the present time.

The fight made in some of the "dry towns" of Southern California was dwelt upon at some length. The League has many branches in this portion of the state, and one of its duties is to see to the strict enforcement of the law. In some of the larger cities it has been the work of the League to employ inspectors whose duty it is to keep a close watch upon offenders. The speaker claimed that the disposal of "tonics and extracts" by druggists in towns which had declared against the "unwholesome thirst habit" was by this means kept down to the minimum.

"The Anti-Saloon League has but one purpose with three methods," declared the speaker. "They are agitation, legislation and enforcement, hence it will take strong effort to overcome it."

While not in exact line with the "reign of terror" created by Mrs. Carrie Nation among the thirst parlor of Kansas with her little hatchet, Dr. Chapman believed that the saloon smasher was doing what was legally right. As the law was framed in that state any citizen could take the law into his own hands, if the liquor laws and regulations of the state were being knowingly violated. Dr. Chapman took occasion to jubilate over the drought of fermented spirits in Kansas, where there were 45 counties without jails, while 33 were without poor houses.

Active work has only commenced with the formation of the League, according to the speaker. Dr. Chapman outlined feasible plans for operations in the coming campaign. His advice was much along the line of "vote as you pray," and he declared that the temperance people would cast their ballot without regard to political affiliations the cause would make rapid strides toward accomplishing the desired results. He hoped the people would be in dead earnest and infect vim and vigor into their labors.

Dr. Chapman also had a good word for the proposed dispensary bill. He believed it a measure in the right direction, which could be endorsed by the League.

The duties of the newly elected officers of the League were defined. The services of a superintendent were advocated. A general canvass for membership will be made as speedily as possible. A number of the churches of the city have pledged themselves to take up the movement locally and secure signers.

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